

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the City Council.

Austin, Texas, June 17, 1895.

Hon John McDonald, mayor, presiding.

Roll call.

Present- Aldermen Anderson, Kossman, Fischer, Glass, Glascow,
 Haynes, Jackson, Nitschke, Powell, Redd, Schneider, Shelley, Taylor-12.
 Absent- Aldermen Gaeth, Hume, Lawless, Linn, Platt, Roberdeau,
 Robin, Townsend, Warmoth-9.

Minutes of the meetings of the city council held June 3rd
 and 6th 1895 were adopted as printed.

Petitions, Memorials, Etc.

Petitions from citizens. A petition was received from Herman Weise, Jno Bauer and Raymond Prade asking that the fines assessed against them in Raymond Prade's name by the recorder's court for catching fish near the dam in an unlawful manner, be remitted.

It was read and laid over.

Alderman Haynes introduced the following:

To the Hon. Mayor and City Council of the City of Austin-

Gentlemen- Acting under my suggestions as one of your police committee, the city marshal, in the enforcement of ordinance passed August 21, 1893 for the protection of fish and prohibiting fishing except with pole and line within 200 yards of the dam, and having made sundry arrests for violation of said ordinance, and the recorder having assessed in each case the lowest penalty, I find that most of the parties arrested had no knowledge of the existence of such ordinance, the city having no standing warning on the ground, as is usual in such cases, and while I deem it important that the ordinance should be enforced, I believe under the circumstances that the fines assessed should be remitted. Therefore I petition your honorable body to remit the fines and to instruct the city City Marshal to post marshal to at once have a conspicuous notice painted notice as to fishing on the lower wall on the river side of the power house calling attention to the terms of the law and the penalty for the violation thereof. Respectfully

H. L. Haynes.

Approved: Jno McDonald, Mayor.

Alderman Anderson moved that the petition be granted and the recommendations adopted. Carried.

Alderman Lawless entered the council chamber and answered to his name.

By Alderman Nitschke- A petition from F. A. Jacobson for permission to erect a wagon scale on Sabine street between Sixteenth and Seventeenth streets, opposite or near the northwest corner of lot No. 4, division E.

It was referred to the street committee with power to act.

J. A. Jackson.

Southern Western Tel. & Tel. Co. Petition By Alderman Schneider- A petition from the Southwestern Telegraph and Telephone company by E. K. Baker, general superintendent, for permission to attach to the bridge, on the east side, sufficient wooden cross arms to safely carry its wires across the Colorado river into South Austin on Congress avenue. Granted.

Alderman Platt entered the council chamber and answered to his name.

Petition citizens of 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th streets, asking to stockade. By Alderman Haynes- A petition of citizens living on Seventh, Eighth, Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh and Twelfth streets, asking that stock be not allowed to run at large on the above named streets.

It was read and referred to the committee on police.

Reports of City Officers.

Sublette reported. Reports made by Engineer G.W. Sublette were received from the board of public works as follows:

A report pointing out some defects in the belting furnished by the Norwich Belting Company, and stating that he cannot recommend final payment until the defects are remedied.

A report of the test made of governor on turbines showing that it was necessary to change adjustment of governor to reduce speed of dynamos to 650, as with resistance all in and speed at 670, voltage could not be reduced.

A report showing that there is now 493 cubic feet of granite on hand at the dam.

A report showing property in hands of the board of public works, consisting of chains, tables, etc.

Aldermen Townsend and Warrneth entered the council chamber and answered to their names.)

A report showing amount and value of material on hand at power house from Riter & Conley.

The value is placed at \$2618.38.

An estimate of hydrants, valves and pipe at dam in charge of board of public works as follows:

Three 6-inch hydrants at \$26.25	\$78.75
Five 6-inch gate valves at \$12	60.00
15,666 lbs pipe at \$21	<u>164.49</u>
	\$303.24

An estimate of the amount and value of lumber on hand in charge of board of public works. The total value is placed at \$96.27.

Alderman Roberdeau entered the council chamber and answered to his name.)

A report which states that the Stilwell-Bierce & Smith-Viile Company have complied with the terms of their contract in the construction of pumps, gearing and vertical turbines, except as to revolution counter, and recommends that the company be paid

in full for this part of their contract when a substantial revolution counter is put in place.

A report which states that he can not approve of the governors now in place on the horizontal turbines, and recommends that the company be notified that they do not work properly.

All of the above reports were received and filed.

Aldermen Tolson, Sturtevant and South entered the council chamber and answered to their names.

The following was read:

Austin, Tex., June 6, 1890.

To the Hon Board of Public Works:

Gentlemen - It is proper for me to say that Colonel Fanning, in the design of power house, contemplated the placing of struts, 12 inches square, between west wall of power house and the ends of piers of the different openings, to protect walls against severe pressure in times of extreme high water. It may be necessary to put these in place should such floods occur. I would further recommend the placing of extra supports under those heavy machines that do not rest on girders, and such bracing as may be necessary to take up vibrations of floor.

This can all be done in time without great cost and without detriment to the operation of the plant.

There is about two and a half million gallons of water flowing through the large main under the power house in 24 hours, which is cool, clear and seemingly very pure. This could be utilized at small expense for the city supply.

It may be necessary to make the west side of the power house wholly impervious to water. I would recommend for this Sylvester's wash, which has been used on reservoir walls with success. The cost would be about \$150.00. There is a noticeable moisture on the inner walls below the valley eves, after heavy rains. It will perhaps be advisable should this not cease, to put up leaders and drain spouts.

Taking all into consideration, I feel that the city of Austin has a very complete plant. As far as I am informed, no city in the land of the size has ever undertaken so great a work. I am glad to have been associated with you in its completion. I wish to thank you for your uniform courtesy, and may the citizens of Austin, in their great public-spirited way, continue to guard this splendid plant with the same interest that the board of public works has displayed in its construction. The engineering profession will always entertain a deep interest in this work and a

profound respect for the deep business sagacity of the men who conceived and have carried out so great an undertaking with the hope that this work may be an index finger, guiding the New South to the high and noble prosperity of which she is capable.

I am yours truly

G. W. Sublette, Engineer.

A report was also received from Mr G. W. Sublette, engineer, which states that he at this time can not recommend payment to the Stilwell-Bierce & Smith Vaile Mfg Co, for best lightness, as they do not conform to the plans for the same now on file in his office and furnished by Col J. P. Fanning consulting engineer. Received and filed.

The following was read:

Austin, Texas June 10, 1895.

Board of Public Works. V. Resolved by the Board of Public Works that the city council, through its water and light commission be requested to take charge of the plant now about completed and that such further details in the way of completion be committed to the said water and light commission, and that all employes herefore engaged by the Board of Public Works be discontinued with the exception of Mr W. J. Oliphant whose services the Board desires to retain until the submission of its final report which is now being prepared and which will be completed as soon as possible.

The within resolution was adopted by the Board of Public Works at a meeting held on June 10, 1895, as shown by the records of said meeting.

W. J. Oliphant

Secy. Board of Public Works.

Alderman Lawless moved that the resolution be returned to the Board of Public Works with the request that it be withdrawn until after the election on the bond question, as the services of the board will probably be desired after that time. The motion was adopted by a rising vote of 14 to 4.

The following report was read:

Austin, Texas June 6, 1895.

To the Honorable Board of Public Works, Austin, Texas.
Gentlemen - I beg to submit herewith a final report of material furnished and in position June 1, 1895, by the Fort Wayne Electric Company on their contract with the city of Austin, dated March 22, 1894:

31 Star lighting towers 100 feet high.

2048 Northern white cedar poles.

5000 yellow pine cross-arms

1700 Locust pines

8500 oak pins.
 2300 pole steps.
 10,500 D. G. D. glass insulators.
 2780 cross arm braces.
 167,500 feet of No 0 W.P. line wire.
 148,800 feet of No 4 W.P. line wire.
 286,500 feet of No 6 W.P. line wire.
 375,000 feet of No 8 W.P. line wire.
 7000 feet of galv. iron guy wire.
 34,180 feet of galv. iron barbed wire.
 186,2000 c.p. arc lamps.
 14,2000 c.p. arc lamps (not located)
 186 hoods, hanging boards, etc., for arc lamps.
 14 hoods, hanging boards, etc., for arc lamps (not located)
 21 12 light transformers.
 99 25 light transformers.
 40 50 light transformers.
¹⁵ 75 light transformers.
¹⁵ 100 light transformers.
¹¹ 125 light transformers.
 12 250 light transformers.
 1 500 light transformer.
 14 junction boxes.
 40 guy stubs.
 30 swinging ball lightning arresters (ordered and labor to place in position paid).

This material has been delivered and set up complete as per plans and specifications furnished by Consulting Engineer J. P. Fanning.

The original contract calls for only 80 of the Star iron towers, for two 100 light arc dynamos, and calls for the wiring of the 500-volt power machines (purchased of the General Electric Company) into the city. On the 31st day of August, 1894, the Board of Public Works made an exchange with the General Electric Company, giving two 100 H.P. 500-volt dynamos (purchased under a former contract) for one 200 H.P. three-phase power generator and 27 transformers of 7500 watts capacity each, for reducing the voltage for power purposes. On account of the great saving in wire to the Fort Wayne Company by the exchange, they agreed and furnished the city with one extra tower and three 80-light arc dynamos in place of the two 100 lights mentioned in their contract. They also built a complete metallic circuit from the power house to Congress avenue in place of the ground return from West avenue to the power house as specified. They also agreed to reduce the loss in transmission from 20 per cent to 10 per cent thereby, making a saving in the power to be delivered at Congress avenue, and prevent all liability of electrolysis or electrical

action on the water mains.

The contract, amounting to \$112,500.00 I believe to be complete and without one dollar allowed for extras. While in the start some of the lamps on the towers did not work properly, it was expected they would not, as they hung in the weather on the towers nearly eight months without any attention, and I had no power in the contract to prevent any work being completed, providing it came up to the specifications. At the present time the lamps are in a fair condition and giving satisfaction.

I believe the contract to be complete and in accordance with the plans and specifications furnished by Engineer Fanning, and respectfully recommend the acceptance of same.

In conclusion, I wish to extend my sincere thanks to his honor, Mayor McDonald; to Secretary Oliphant and to each and every member of the Board of Public Works for their hearty co-operation and their uniform kindness to me during my employment with them for the past year.

With best wishes for the future welfare of the great enterprise, I am, very respectfully,

Frank E. Scovell,

Electrical Engineer Board of Public Works.

Read at a meeting of the Board of Public works on June 10. 1895, and on motion referred to the city council.

W. J. Oliphant
Secretary Board of Public Works.

Alderman Lawless moved that the recommendations be adopted. Carried.

The following was read:

Austin, Texas, June 17, 1895.

W. H. Tobin, Chairman Water and Light Commission,
Austin, Texas:

Dear Sir: For putting in water service pipe so far has cost the city on an average of \$3.29 for each consumer, while the average paid by each consumer is \$1.98 making a total average cost of \$5.27 for each consumer. Of the amount paid by consumers the great part has been paid by those who are not near the water mains, a mere pittance only having been paid by those who are on the mains. I estimate that \$350.00 would cover the entire amount paid by such consumers and I would recommend that these small sums be returned by the city to those consumers who are on the mains, and that the city put service pipes to the sidewalk at its own expense for all persons on the mains who will promptly take water.

L. J. Muddar
Report cost of put-
ting in pipe.
Solicitor.

from the city, and that as soon as the mains are extended that service pipes be put in free of cost to all who will promptly take the city water. And I would suggest that some suitable person be employed to visit all citizens on the mains and solicit them to take water and light from the plant, in which all alike are interested, and as many persons will not take time to come to the office it would be well for the solicitor to carry the book along so applicants can sign at their homes and places of business.

Respectfully submitted,

Jno W. Maddox, Superintendent

The within report was read at a meeting of the water and light commission on June 14, 1895, and on motion it was referred to the city council with the recommendation that the suggestion made be adopted.

W. J. Oliphant,

Secretary Water and Light Commission

On motion the recommendations were adopted.

The following was read: "Resolved, That Mr F. S. Scovill be selected as electrician at \$150.00 per month and the city council be requested to confirm the same."

The above resolution was offered by Mr Fischer at a meeting of the water and light commission on June 14, 1895 and on motion, same was adopted by a unanimous vote, as shown by the records of said meeting.

W. J. Oliphant,

Secretary Water and Light Com.

Alderman Taylor moved that the resolution be adopted and the appointment of Mr Scovill be confirmed.

Alderman Glascock moved to amend the resolution by changing the salary from \$150 to \$100.00 per month.

Lost by the following vote:

Yea - Aldermen Glascock, Nitschke, Platt, Roberdeau & Nays - Aldermen Anderson, Beermann, Fischer, Glass, Gaeth, Haynes, Hume, Jackson, Lawless, Powell, Redd, Schneider, Shelley, Taylor, Tobin, Townsend, Warmoth 17.

Alderman Taylor's motion was then adopted.

Alderman Taylor presented the following: "Your committee of finance, to whom was referred the report of the city attorney in relation to the William Walsh suit beg leave to report that they have considered the same and recommend that the city attorney be instructed to appeal the case." Adopted.

Alderman Roberdeau presented the following:

Austin, Tex, June 8, 1895

To the Hon. John McDonald, Mayor and

Members of City Council.

Gentlemen. Your fire committee, to whom was referred a resolution authorizing and empowering the fire committee

F. S. Scovill selected
City Electrician.

Wm Walsh case.

Report Finance Com.

to order out the fire department for the purpose of ascertaining the amount of hose that was serviceable at a given pressure; also to investigate the report that the chief of fire department had made an official statement to an agent of the State Board of underwriters detrimental to the city; also a resolution requesting the chief of fire department to make a test of the hose on Friday, the 7th instant, at 5 p.m., have had the same under consideration and beg leave to report—
That in accordance with the above resolutions, the fire department was ordered out by the chief on Friday, the 7th instant, at 5 o'clock. All of the companies responded promptly. One hundred and ten sections, or 5500 feet of hose were tested with a pressure of 120 pounds, in the presence of your committee and Mr Jalonick, the insurance agent. Of the 5500 feet of hose tested, 1500 failed to stand the test, leaving the department with 4000 feet of serviceable hose. It is but just to state that of the 1500 feet that failed to stand the test, 500 feet belonged to South Austin and had, prior to being assigned to them, been rejected and thrown aside.

Your committee have to say in reference to the report of the chief that his statement to the insurance agent was a very conservative one; in fact he reported 500 feet more of good hose than we actually had.

The following is an itemized statement of the amount of hose owned by each company:

Name of Company.	Good Hose.	Not Serviceable
Protection No 8	850	250
South Austin No 5	50	500
East Austin No 4	1000	300
Washington, No 1	1000	...
Colorado, No 2	<u>1000</u>	<u>400</u>
Total	4000	1500

Your committee would respectfully recommend that 2000 feet of hose be purchased in order that South Austin may be supplied with 500 feet and the rest of the companies be supplied with the balance, thereby insuring the efficiency of the department and lessening the necessity of buying new hose so frequently.

R. C. Roberdeau,

George P. Uermann,

C. E. Anderson,

Fire Committee.

The report was adopted.

Alderman Shelley, for the claims and accounts committee, to whom was referred the communication of Mr G. C. Bartholomew, receiver of the Austin Water

Light and Power Company, in reference to a settlement of a judgment against the city for \$25885.84, reported that if in the opinion of the council, it is not deemed wise to appeal the case, that the committee would recommend that the same be adjusted and payment be made as soon as there are sufficient funds in the treasury for that purpose after deducting the amount of taxes due the city by the said company. The report was adopted.

Alderman Shelley, for the committee on claims and accounts, to whom was referred the petition of W. S. Goss, president of Tibbetson Institute, for the remission of taxes, reported that they find assessed to the American Missionary Society for taxes of 1894, 15 acres of land valued at \$2250. As there are only three buildings upon said 20 acres used exclusively for school purposes and as, in the opinion of the committee, five acres are sufficient for the proper use and occupancy thereof the committee recommend that the petition be not granted." Adopted.

Alderman Nitschke, for the special committee, to whom was referred a communication from the board of public works report on accepting, in reference to the acceptance of the electric machinery, made report, which states: "That we have examined said machinery, together with the city electric engineer, and the superintendent of water and light, and find the same in perfect working order, except one exciter, which the city electric engineer says he can fix in 10 minutes. When same is in perfect working order we recommend same be accepted in compliance with their contract. Adopted.

The following was read:

Austin, Texas, June 17, 1895.

Gentlemen of the City Council:

Mayor as per his to
rule of taxation. Bonds
\$200,000. will receive.

The board of equalization for 1895 should be elected not later than our next meeting, for the assessment rolls will be ready for them at that time.

I have been in hopes that we would be able to reduce the taxes for the coming year, and if the issue of \$200,000 bonds is voted I believe we can do so, and in that event would recommend assessment as follows:

For interest and sinking fund on water and light bonds, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents on the \$100.

For public school purposes, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents on the \$100.

For interest on old bonds, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents on the \$100.

For general revenue purposes, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ on the \$100.

The balance of general revenue to be made up from the income from the water and light plant.

Making the total assessment \$1.65 on the \$100.

Should the bonds not be voted we should have to assess about as follows.

For interest and sinking fund water and light bonds 80 cents on the \$100.

For school tax, 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ cents on the \$100.

For old bonds, 6 $\frac{2}{3}$ cents on the \$100.

For general revenue, 70 cents on the \$100.

For payment of amount to become due on water works plant 45 cents on the \$100.

Total \$2.55 on the \$100.

The difference is this: If the bonds are voted and we pay maturing obligations and complete our plant from the proceeds of the bonds, we will have the entire amount we receive from water and light to use as general revenue, but if the bonds are not voted we will have to use our revenue from water and light to extend our plant and raise by taxation \$45,000 to pay maturing obligations, and we must also assess the full amount required for general revenue purposes

Respectfully,

Jno. McDonald, Mayor.

On motion of Alderman Lawless the report was referred to the Finance Committee and ordered printed in the minutes.

New Business.

Austin Dam & Sub.
Ry. Co. Mayor to
make deed.

By Alderman Goeth - An ordinance selling and conveying and authorizing the mayor to make deed to the Austin Dam and Suburban railway of the Dam railroad. It was read the first time and on motion of Alderman Haynes referred to the ordinance committee by a voting vote of 15 to 6.

By Alderman Lawless - An ordinance regulating work in the streets of the city of Austin. It was read the first time and on motion of Alderman Glass referred to the ordinance committee.

A resolution that hereafter no water shall be taken from the hydrants of the City Water Company or the Austin Water Light and Power Company by the fire department, also that the city will not take, accept or pay for any water furnished by said company and that the city clerk so instruct the receiver of said company - was read and referred to the fire committee and city attorney.

By Alderman Schneider - An ordinance amending section 1 of an ordinance entitled an ordinance to prevent the destruction and to regulate the catching of fish in the Colorado river within the corporate limits of the city of Austin and providing a penalty for the violation thereof. It was read the

first time after which, Alderman Haynes moved to refer the ordinance to the ordinance committee.

Lost by the following vote:

Yea. Aldermen Glass, Gluscoek, Haynes, Platt, Shelley, Wernoth, 1

Mayo, Aldermen Anderson, Assmann, Fischer, Goeth, Humes, Jackson, Lawless, Nitschke, Powell, Redd, Roberdeau, Schneider, Taylor, Tobin, and Townsend 15

It was then read a second and third time under suspension of rules and passed.

By Alderman Anderson An ordinance to authorize the receipts of the city of Austin for water and light to be received by the city tax collector at par in payment of the tax levied for the year 1895 and thereafter; to pay the running expenses, interest and sinking fund on the water and light bonds.

Alderman Glascock moved to refer the ordinance to the ordinance committee and city attorney.

Alderman Schneider moved, as a substitute, to refer it to a special committee of three and the city attorney. The substitute was carried and Aldermen Schneider, Shelley and Glass were appointed such committee.

By Alderman Haynes Resolved by the City Council of the City of Austin that the city electrician be directed to inspect all electric wires erected on the streets of the city of Austin and that when such are unsafe or improperly constructed that he require the owners of such wire to at once put same in safe and proper condition. Adopted.

By Alderman Taylor Resolved, That it is deemed expedient by the city council of the city of Austin that the case of The City Water Company vs. The City of Austin, now pending in the Federal Court be appealed, and the city attorney is hereby instructed to act accordingly. Adopted.

By Alderman Townsend Be it resolved by the city council of the city of Austin That when the bonded indebtedness of the city of Austin is extended \$200,000 that of said sum enough money shall be expended to lay at least 25 miles of sixinch pipe, and enough smaller pipe to reach the sidewalk of all water consumers in the city of Austin, and that the sixinch pipe shall be located in the several wards as designated by the Aldermen of the several wards. Adopted.

By Alderman Nitschke Resolved, That the cemetery committee be and they are hereby authorized to have the fence now on the west side of the two and one-half acre tract of land north of the city cemetery and now owned by the city, moved east 60 feet, leaving the street that is now on the east side of said fence on the west side of the same. Referred to street committee with power to act.

By Alderman Shelley Whereas, There are 14 arc lamps yet to be located and that portion of the city known as Clarksville is without both water and light, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Water and Light Commission be and

they are hereby authorized and instructed to place one on the steeple of their church or at such point as the residents may select. Referred to Water and Light Commission.

By Alderman Shelley - A resolution authorizing the Water and Light commission to make connection for all applicants within the next 60 days free of cost. Referred to the Water and Light Commission.

Alderman Schneider moved to reconsider the vote authorizing the city attorney to appeal the City Water Company's case against the City now pending in the Federal Court. Lost by the following vote.

Yea - Aldermen Anderson, Asmann, Glascock, Gaeth,
Lawless, Platt, Powell, Redd, Schneider - 9.

Nay - Aldermen Fischer, Glass, Haynes, Hume, Jackson,
Nitschke, Roberdeau, Shelley, Taylor, Tobin, Townsend, Warmoth - 12.

The Council then adjourned.

Milton Morris,
City Clerk.